

Section 21: Plan Implementation and Maintenance Procedures

Contents

Implementation	21-1
Evaluation and Enhancement	21-2
Continued Public Involvement	21-5

Implementation

This section discusses how this Hazard Mitigation Plan will be implemented by participating jurisdictions, the Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition, and the Lower Colorado River Authority. It also addresses how the Plan will be evaluated and improved over time and how the public will continue to be involved in the hazard mitigation planning process.

Each participating City and County will be responsible for implementing its own Mitigation Action Plan contained in Section 20. Each action has been assigned to a specific person or local government office that is responsible for implementing each specific action. The Governing Bodies of each participating jurisdiction have adopted the Mitigation Action Plan for their jurisdictions. Copies of the governing body resolutions are contained in Appendix F.

A funding source has been listed for each identified action. This source may be used when the jurisdiction begins to seek funds to implement the action. An implementation time period or a specific implementation date also has been assigned to each action as an incentive for seeing the action through to completion and to gauge whether actions are timely implemented.

Participating jurisdictions will integrate implementation of their Mitigation Action Plans through other, already existing planning mechanisms such as capital improvement plans, long range growth plans, master stormwater and drainage plans, and regional planning efforts. Jurisdictions will ensure that the actions contained in the Mitigation Action Plans are reflected in these other planning efforts. These other planning efforts will be used to advance the mitigation strategies of the jurisdictions.

Upon formal adoption of the plan, hazard mitigation team members from each jurisdiction will review all comprehensive land use plans, capital improvement plans, transportation plans, and any





building codes to guide and control development. The hazard mitigation team members will work to integrate the hazard mitigation strategies into these other plans and codes. Each jurisdiction will conduct periodic reviews of their comprehensive and land use plans and policies and analyze the need for any amendments in light of the approved hazard mitigation plan. Participating jurisdictions will ensure that capital improvement planning in the future will also contribute to the goals of this hazard mitigation plan to reduce the long-term risk to life and property from all hazards. Within one year of formal adoption of the hazard mitigation plan, existing planning mechanisms will be reviewed by each jurisdiction.

The Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition is committed to implementing the basin-wide Mitigation Action Plans contained in Section 19 for which it is responsible. The Coalition will review and revise, as necessary, the long-range goals and objectives in its Strategic Plan to ensure that they are consistent with the Coalition's Mitigation Action Plan. The Coalition will also oversee implementation of Mitigation Action Plans by participating jurisdictions. Through its many activities, the Coalition will advance the goals and objectives of this hazard mitigation planning effort.

Similarly, the Lower Colorado River Authority will implement its Mitigation Action Plan, also contained in Section 19, through its routine, ongoing long-range planning, budgeting, and work processes.

Evaluation and Enhancement

Periodic revisions and updates of the Plan are required to ensure that the goals, objectives, and Mitigation Action Plans for the Lower Colorado River Basin are kept current. More importantly, revisions may be necessary to ensure that the Plan is in full compliance with federal regulations and state statutes. This portion of the Plan outlines the procedures for completing such revisions and updates.

Monitoring and Five Year Plan Review

Hazard mitigation team members from each jurisdiction are responsible for continual monitoring those components of the hazard mitigation plan that pertains to their jurisdiction. As part of the monitoring process, team members will assess any changes in risk; determine whether implementation of mitigation actions is on schedule or if there are any implementation problems, such as technical, political, legal or coordination issues; and reflect changes in land development or programs that affect mitigation priorities or actions. They will obtain periodic reports by agencies involved in implementing actions. On an annual basis, participating jurisdictions will notify the Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition of any needed changes in the plan based upon their monitoring activities.



Over the next five years, participating jurisdictions will also monitor development trends. Comprehensive data is only available on development trends in three of the fastest-growing counties – Travis, Williamson and Bastrop. Efforts will be made over the next five years to obtain better data and include it in 5-year update on development trends in all jurisdictions and vulnerability in terms of future buildings, infrastructure and critical facilities in identified hazard areas.

This Mitigation Action Plan will be formally reviewed every five years to determine whether there have been significant changes in the Lower Colorado River Basin that might affect the Plan. The five-year review will be conducted by the participating jurisdictions under the auspices of the Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition and with technical support provided by the Lower Colorado River Authority. Increased development, increased exposure to certain hazards, the development of new mitigation capabilities or techniques, and revisions to federal or state legislation are examples of changes that may affect the currency of the Plan. The review also will give community officials an opportunity to evaluate successful actions and to explore the possibility of documenting losses avoided because of actions taken. The Plan also will need to be revised to reflect lessons learned following a disaster declaration or to address specific circumstances arising from changing conditions surrounding disaster events.

Criteria to be included in the evaluation will include, at a minimum:

- The goals and objectives address current and expected conditions;
- The nature, magnitude, and/or type of risks has changed;
- The current resources are appropriate for implementing the plan;
- There are implementation problems, such as technical, political, legal, or coordination issues with other agencies;
- The outcomes have occurred as expected; and,
- The agencies and other partners participated as originally proposed.

As part of the plan review process, participating jurisdictions will be asked to review each goal and objective to determine their continued relevance; review the risk assessment portion of the plan to determine if the information should be updated or modified; report on the status of each of their mitigation actions; report on which implementation processes worked well, any difficulties encountered, how coordination efforts are proceeding, and which mitigation actions should be revised; and evaluate





the effectiveness of their mitigation action plans and recommend changes or amendments. The results will be summarized in a formal report issued by the TCRFC that will include an evaluation of the effectiveness and appropriateness of the Plan, and will recommend required or desirable changes. The five-year review will begin in January 2008 and be completed by September 30, 2008.

Plan Amendments

At any time, minor technical changes may be made to the plan to keep it up to date. However, any major changes to mitigation actions or changes in the overall direction of the plan or the policies contained in it must be subject to formal adoption by the participating jurisdictions.

After initial adoption, amendments to the Plan must be approved by the Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition. An amendment to the Mitigation Action Plans contained in Section 20 must also be approved by the governing body of the participating city or county.

A Coalition member may initiate an amendment to the Plan at any time by submitting a written proposal to the Coalition Chairman. The proposal will be forwarded to all Coalition members. Input will be sought on the proposed amendment during a review and comment period of not less than 30-days. The proposed change will be posted on the Coalition's website and made available for public review and comment.

At the end of the comment period, the proposed amendment and all comments will be forwarded to the Coalition Chairman for consideration by Coalition members. If no comments are received from the reviewing parties within the specified review period, this will also be noted. Coalition members will then review the proposed amendment and comments received, and vote to accept, reject, or amend the proposed change. The public will have an opportunity to provide input during the Coalition meeting at which the request is considered. Upon ratification, the amendment will be transmitted to the State Division of Emergency Management.

An amendment to section 20 must be approved by the governing body of the participating city or county, then forwarded to the Coalition for consideration. In determining whether to recommend approval or denial of a Plan amendment request, the following factors will be considered:

- There are errors or omissions made in the identification of issues or needs during the preparation of the Plan;



- New issues or needs have been identified which were not adequately addressed in the Plan;
- There has been a change in information, data, or assumptions from those on which the Plan was based.

Continued Public Involvement

Public input was an integral part of the preparation of this Plan and will continue to be essential as the Plan grows and changes. As with any officially adopted plan or ordinance, a significant change to this Plan shall require an opportunity for the public to make its views known.

This Hazard Mitigation Action Plan will be posted continuously on the website of the Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition, where the public is invited to provide ongoing feedback. Copies of the Plan also will be kept in each jurisdiction and at the Lower Colorado River Authority for public inspection and review. The Lower Colorado River Authority is located at 3700 Lake Austin Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78703.

